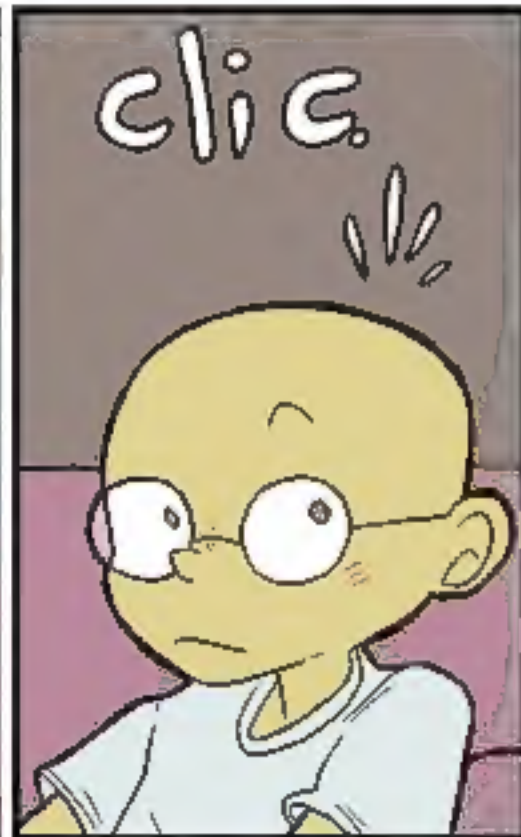


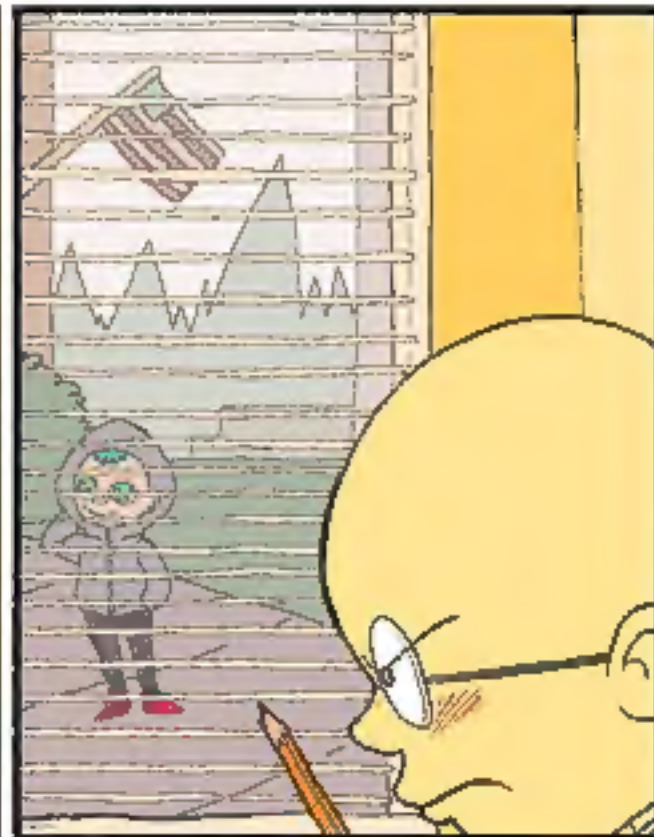
CHAPTER 13

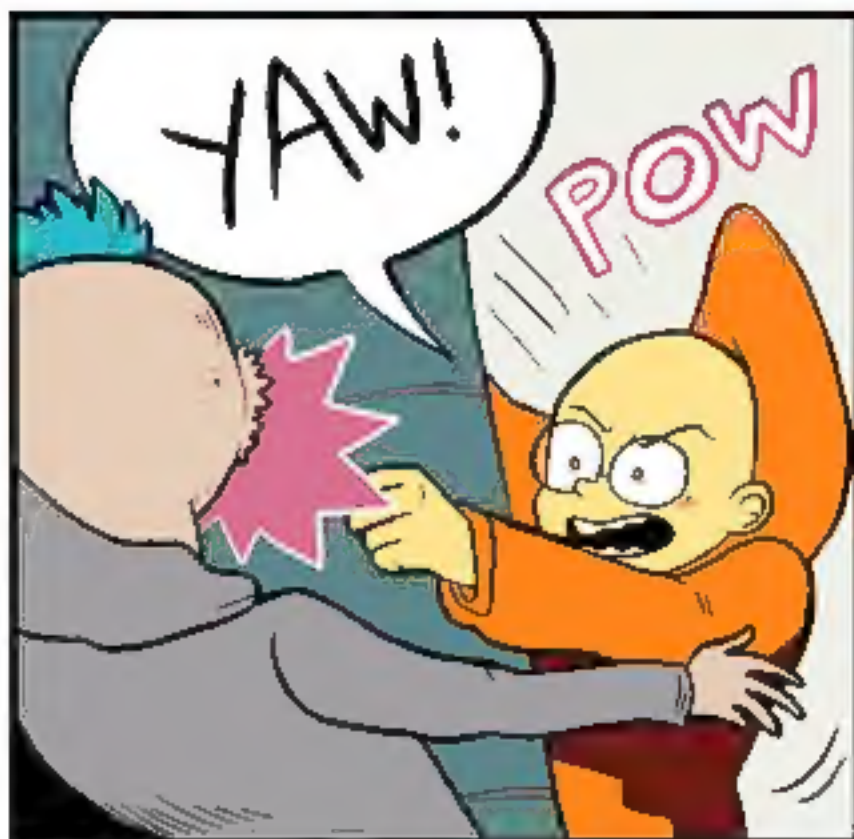
**POOR
EDWARD**



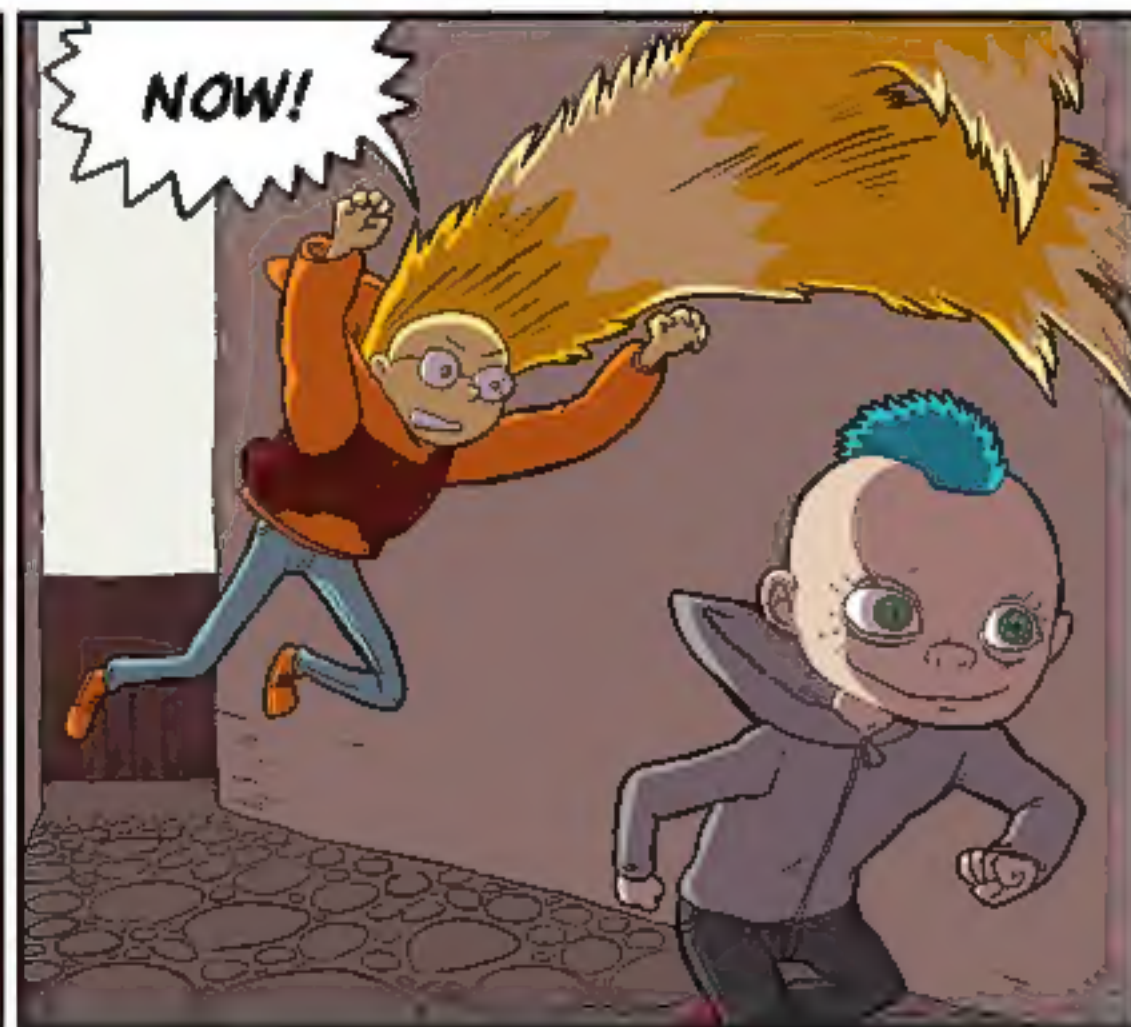




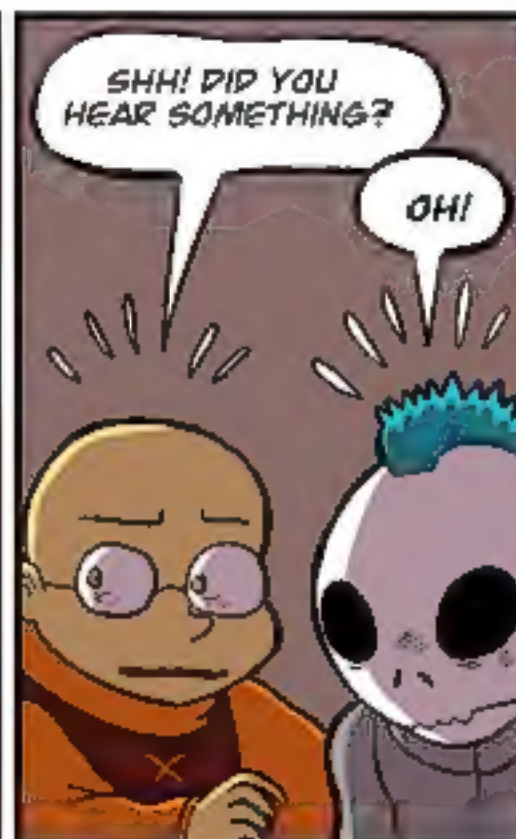












MUM AND DAD AND ME,
WE'RE FROM IRELAND.
DAD HAD TO COME HERE
FOR BUSINESS, SO HE
TOOK US ALONG. BEEN
ALMOST A YEAR NOW.



JUST A BIT AFTER WE GOT
SETTLED IN, I MET THAT
GLOWING THING. A 'GHOST',
YOU CALLED IT? AND MY
FACE BECAME, EH,
DETACHABLE, I SPOSE
YOU'D CALL IT...



MY FAMILY COULDN'T
SEE ANYTHING WAS WRONG,
COS WHEN MY FACE IS
ALL THE WAY ATTACHED, IT
LOOKS ABOUT THE SAME.

EH, ALMOST.

IT FELT SO
STRANGE, RIGHT?
I'VE BEEN ALL ALONE
IN THIS, NO IDEA
WHAT TO DO...



I'VE NO IDEA HOW I'M
NOT DEAD. IT'S LIKE MAGIC
OR SOMETHING.

I CAN SEE AND HEAR
FINE WITHOUT MY FACE.

ACTUALLY IT'S
QUITE WEIRD TO
WEAR IT. LIKE
HAVING A MASK ON.



EH, SORRY, I WASN'T
MEANING TO PRATTLE
ON LIKE I DID.

THERE'S NEVER
BEEN ANYONE
I COULD SAY THIS
OUT LOUD TO.



BUT WAIT, DID
SHELL EVER FIND
YOU? UH, THE GUYS
WITH SUITS AND UM,
LIKE, ENERGY GUNS?

DID YOU SEE ME
N'KERA IN THEIR
FILES OR WHATEVER?



NAH, NO ONE EVER
BOTHERED WITH ME.
NO ONE KNEW.

I SAW YOU JUST
BY CHANCE, FOR
A MOMENT. MONTHS
AGO... IN THE
WINDOW OF A
RECORD STORE WAS
A BALD GIRL WITH
A HAIRY CREATURE.



OH! THAT DAY! AT
BINA'S DAD'S STORE!

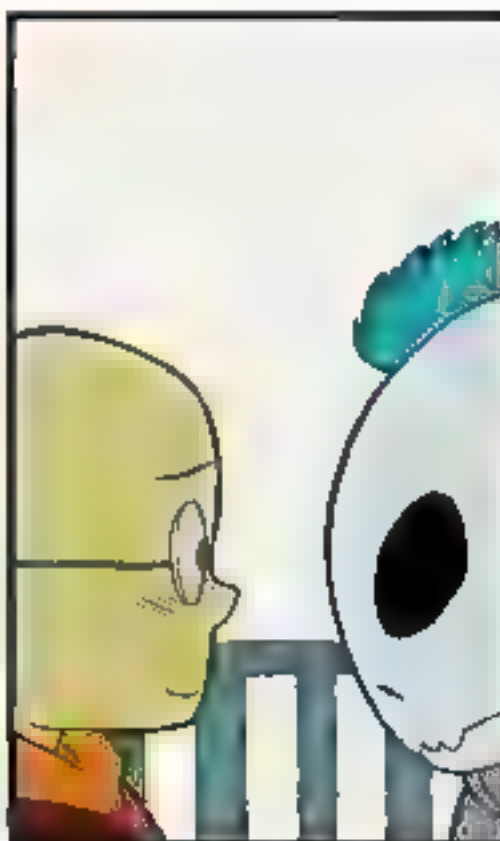
YEEESH!
I GOTTA
BE MORE
CAREFUL.

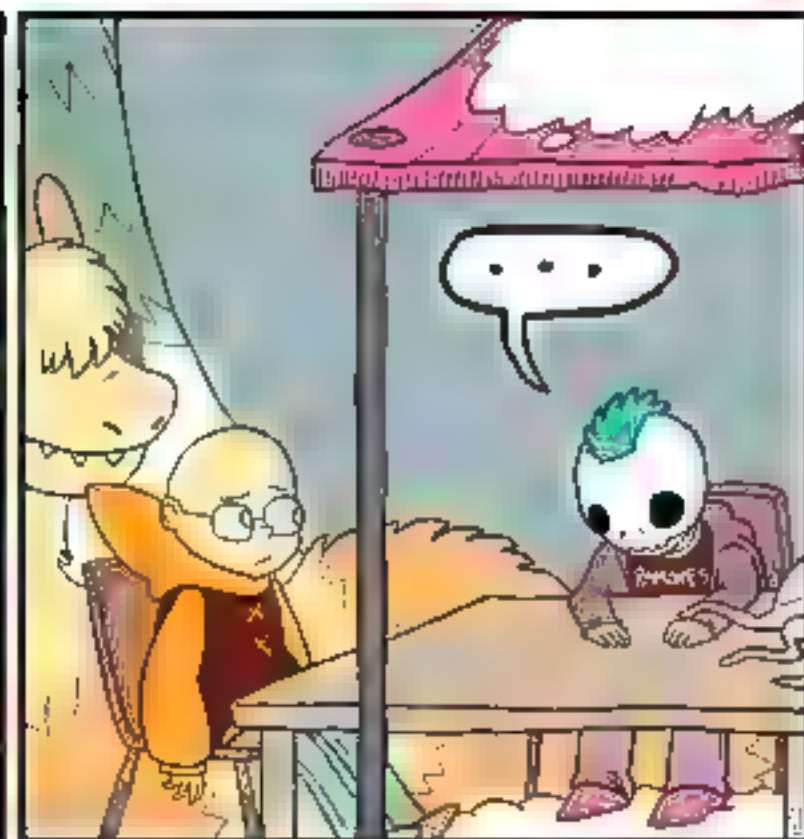
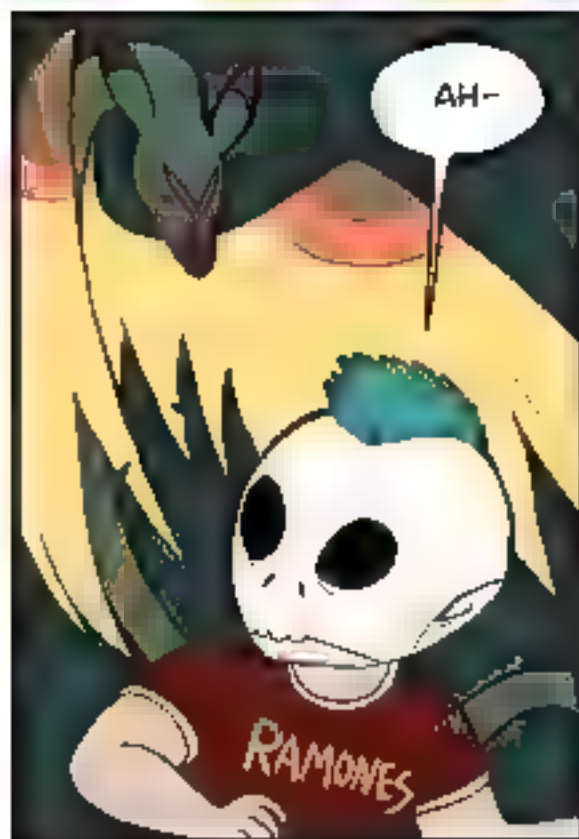
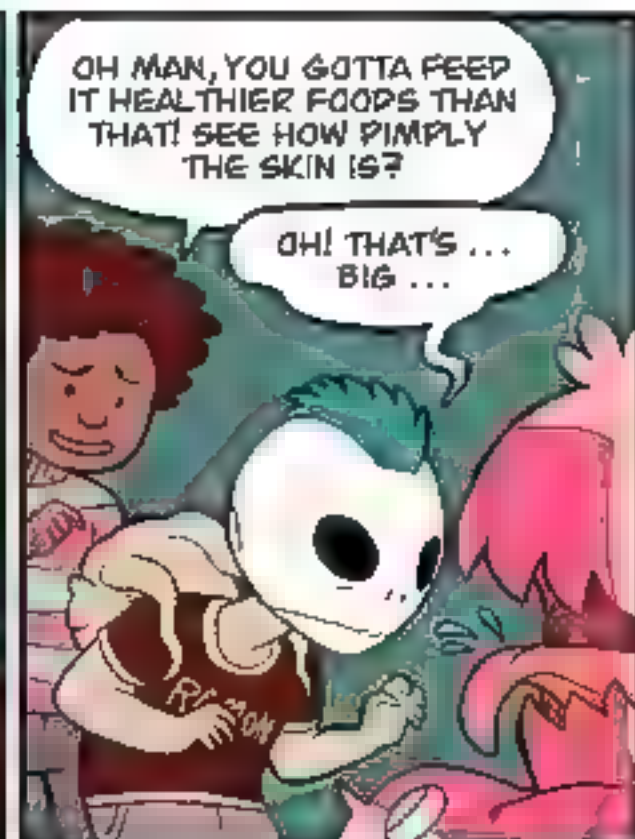


I'M HAPPY YOU
WEREN'T CAREFUL.
I'DVE KEPT THINKING
I WAS ALL ALONE.

I'VE BEEN TRYING
TO FIND YOU AGAIN
FOR A LONG TIME.

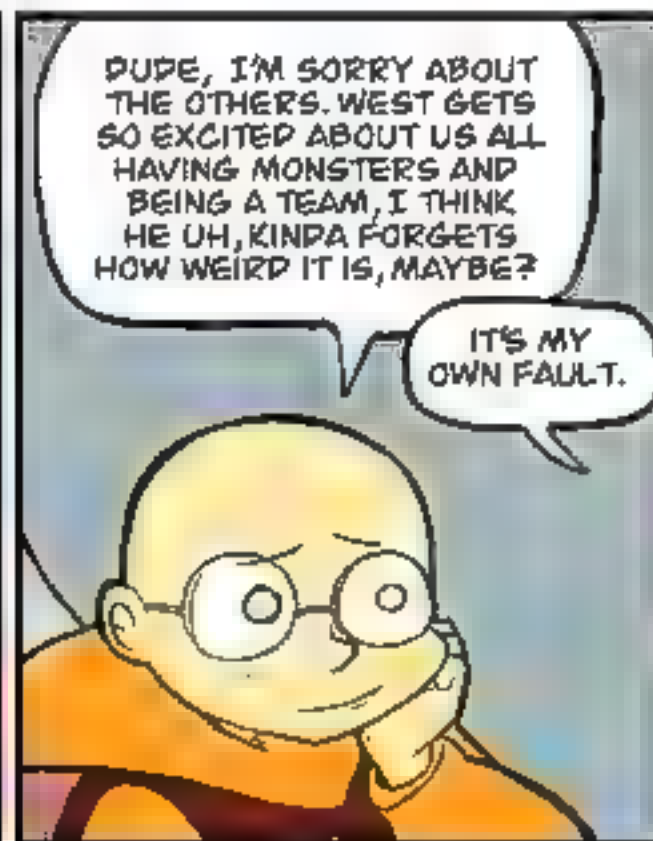






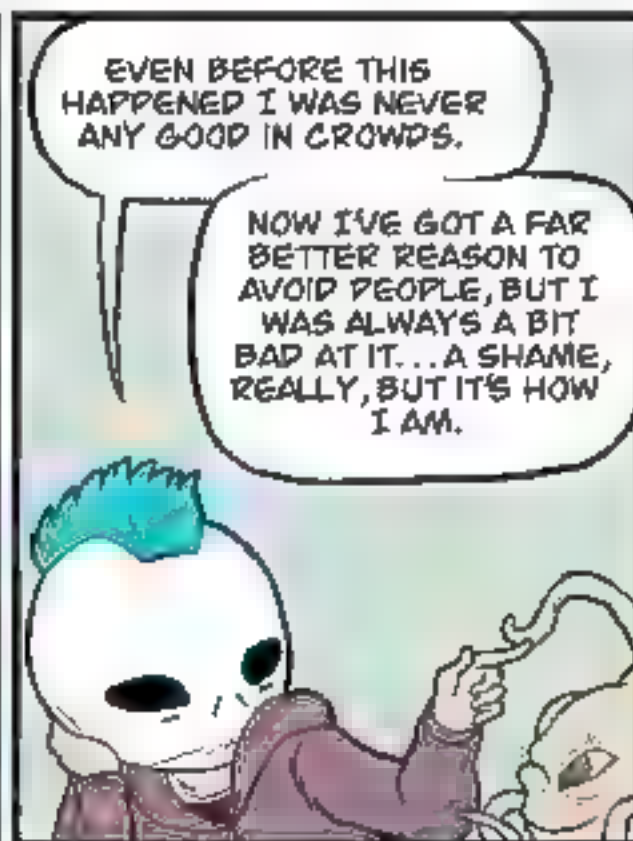


... I KNEW FRIENDS OF YOURS HAD CREATURES OF THEIR OWN, BUT ... SEEING THEM... I DIDN'T KNOW THEY'D BE SO BIG...



DUDE, I'M SORRY ABOUT THE OTHERS. WEST GETS SO EXCITED ABOUT US ALL HAVING MONSTERS AND BEING A TEAM, I THINK HE UH, KINDA FORGETS HOW WEIRD IT IS, MAYBE?

IT'S MY OWN FAULT.



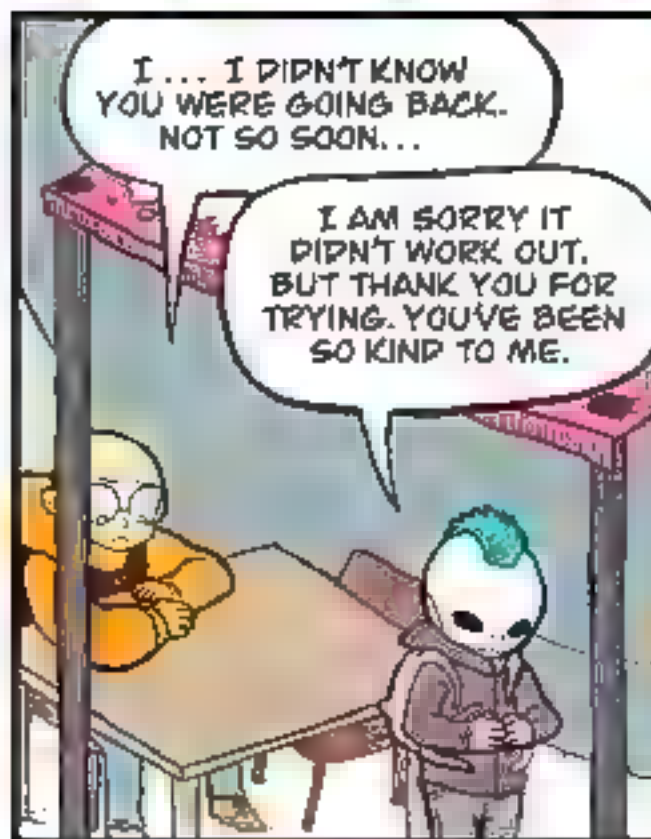
EVEN BEFORE THIS HAPPENED I WAS NEVER ANY GOOD IN CROWDS.

NOW I'VE GOT A FAR BETTER REASON TO AVOID PEOPLE, BUT I WAS ALWAYS A BIT BAD AT IT... A SHAME, REALLY, BUT IT'S HOW I AM.



MAYBE IT'S FOR THE BEST AFTER ALL. THIS IS MY LAST WEEK HERE BEFORE WE GO BACK TO IRELAND.

MAYBE IT'S BEST I DON'T GET ATTACHED TO NEW FRIENDS.



I ... I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE GOING BACK. NOT SO SOON...

I AM SORRY IT DIDN'T WORK OUT. BUT THANK YOU FOR TRYING. YOU'VE BEEN SO KIND TO ME.



EDWARD, WAIT. IF YOU DON'T LIKE CROWDS THEN MAYBE...

MAYBE IT'D BE OKAY IF IT WAS JUST YOU AND ME NEXT TIME?



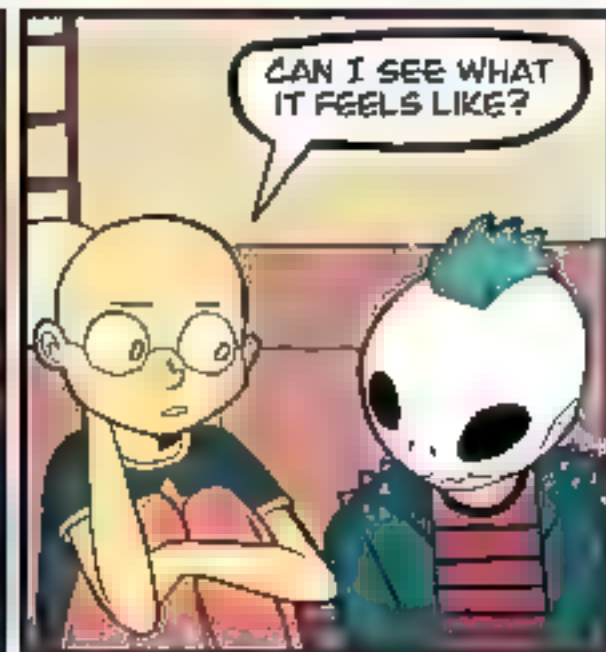
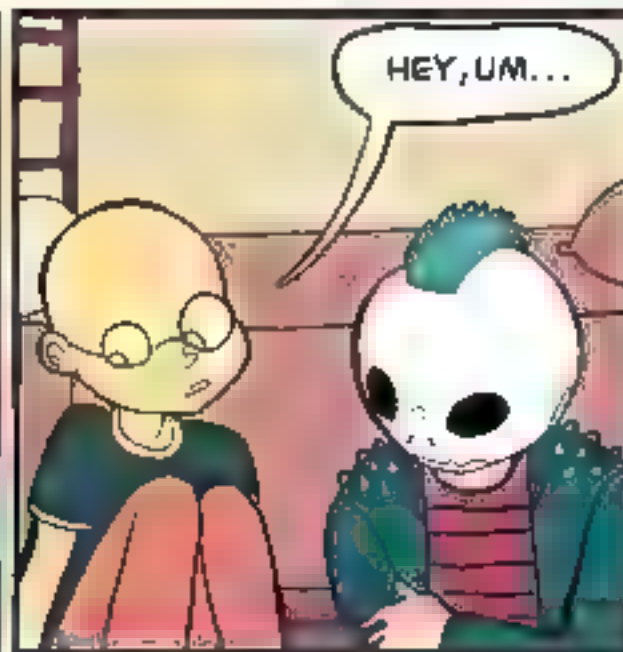
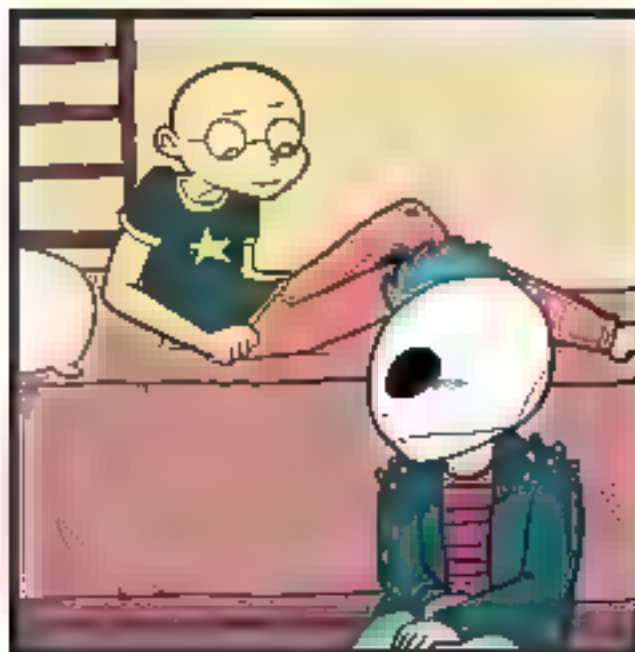
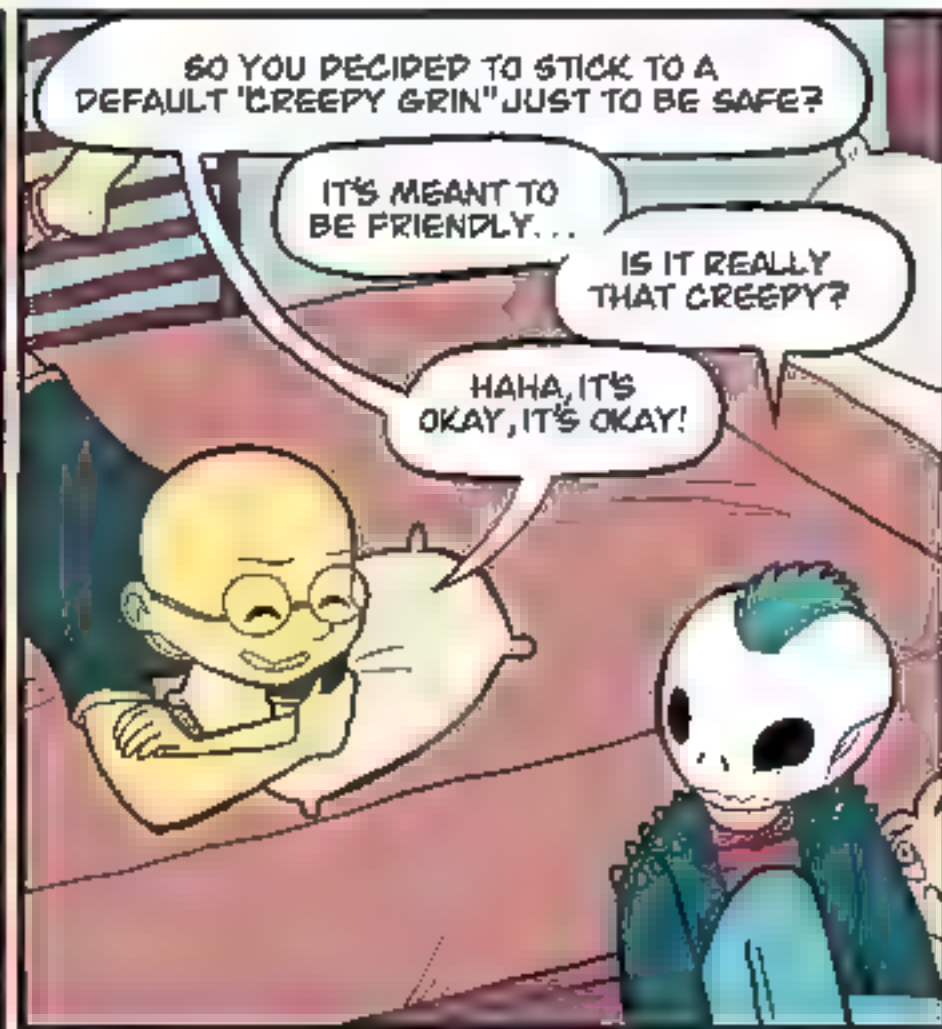
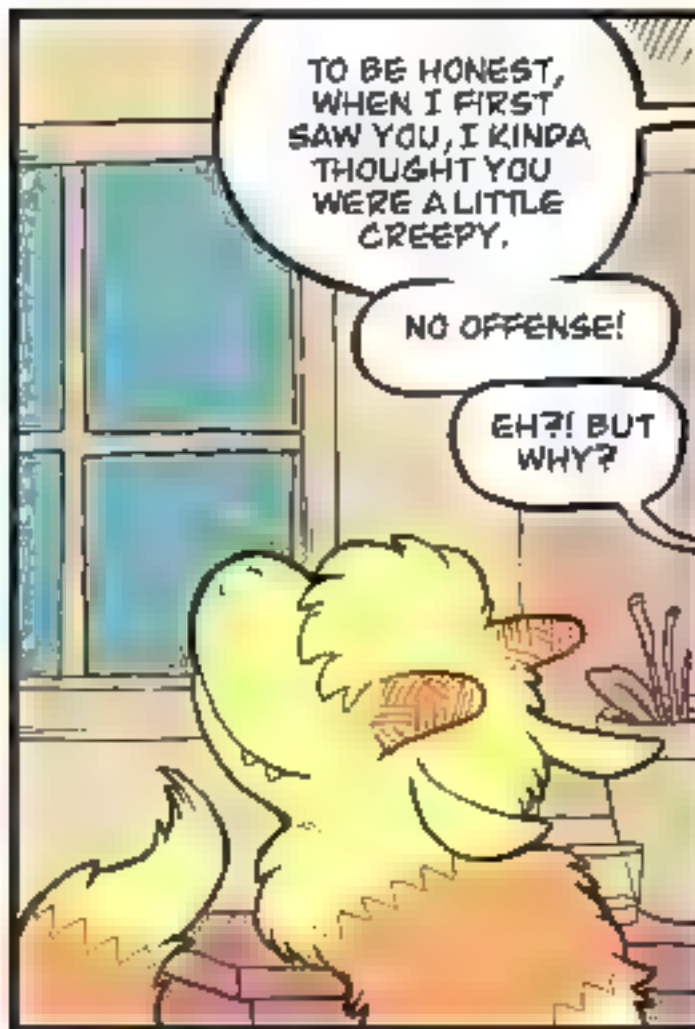
UM, I MEAN. JUST BECAUSE, Y'KNOW, YOU SHOULDN'T BE LIKE, ALONE. IN YOUR LAST WEEK. BUT IT'S COOL IF-

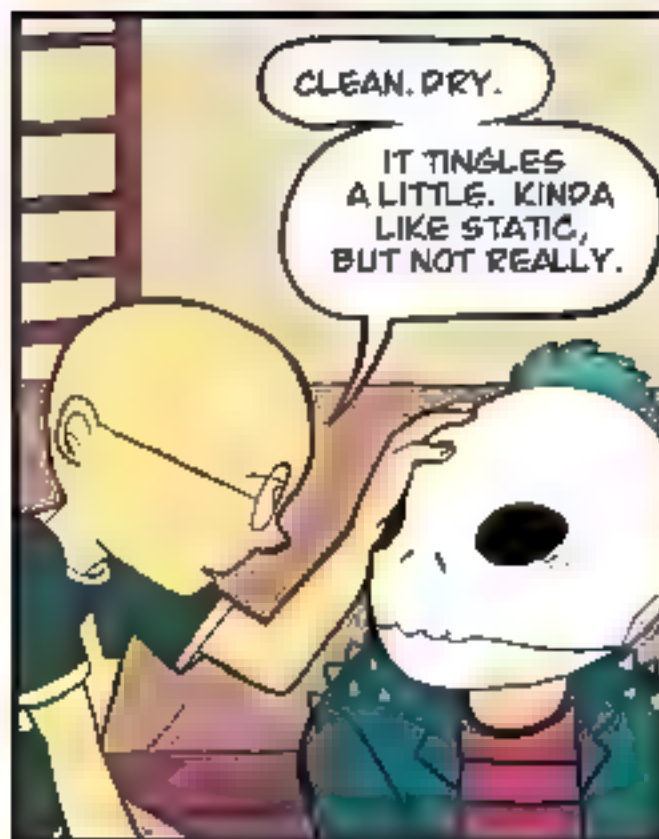
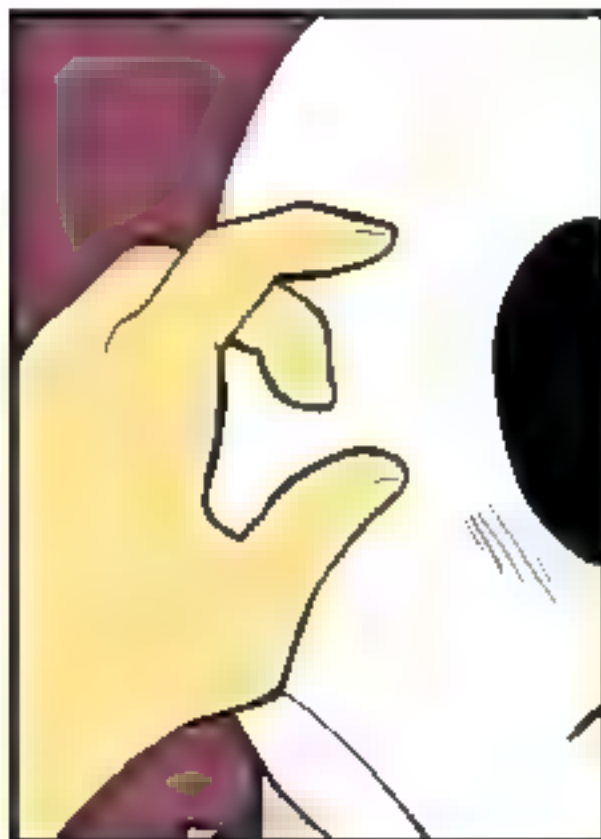
THAT'D BE ACE.

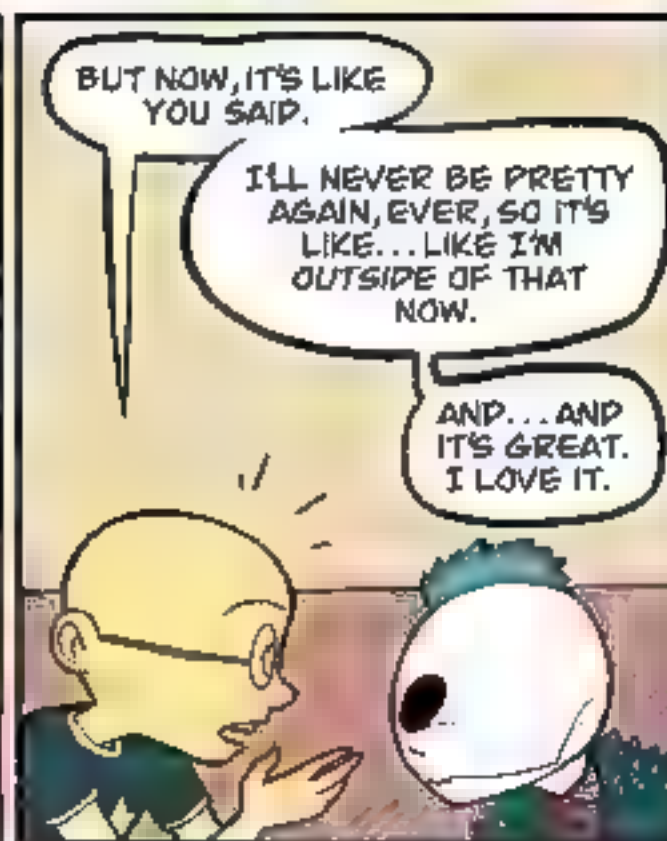
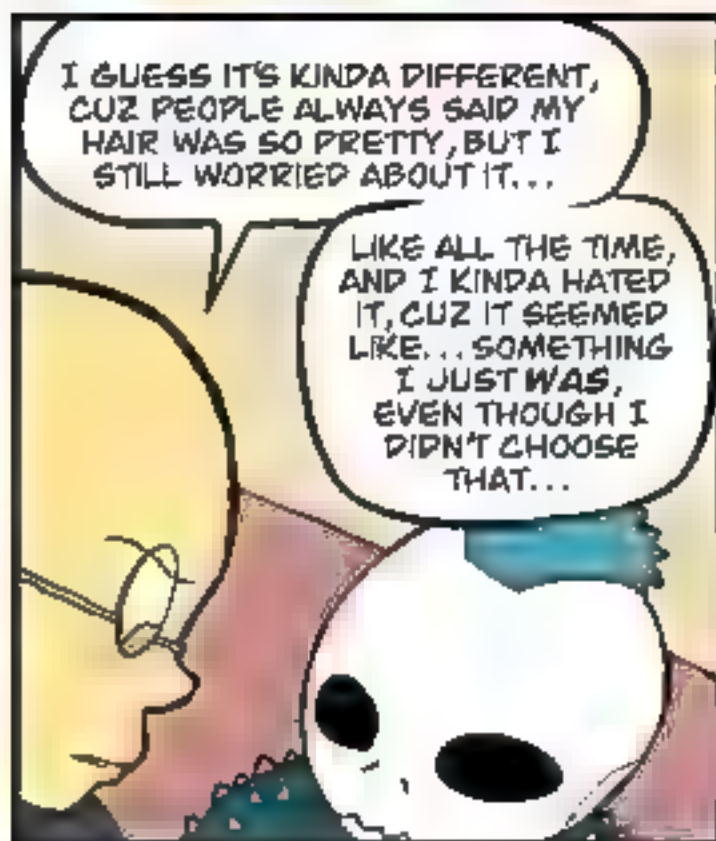
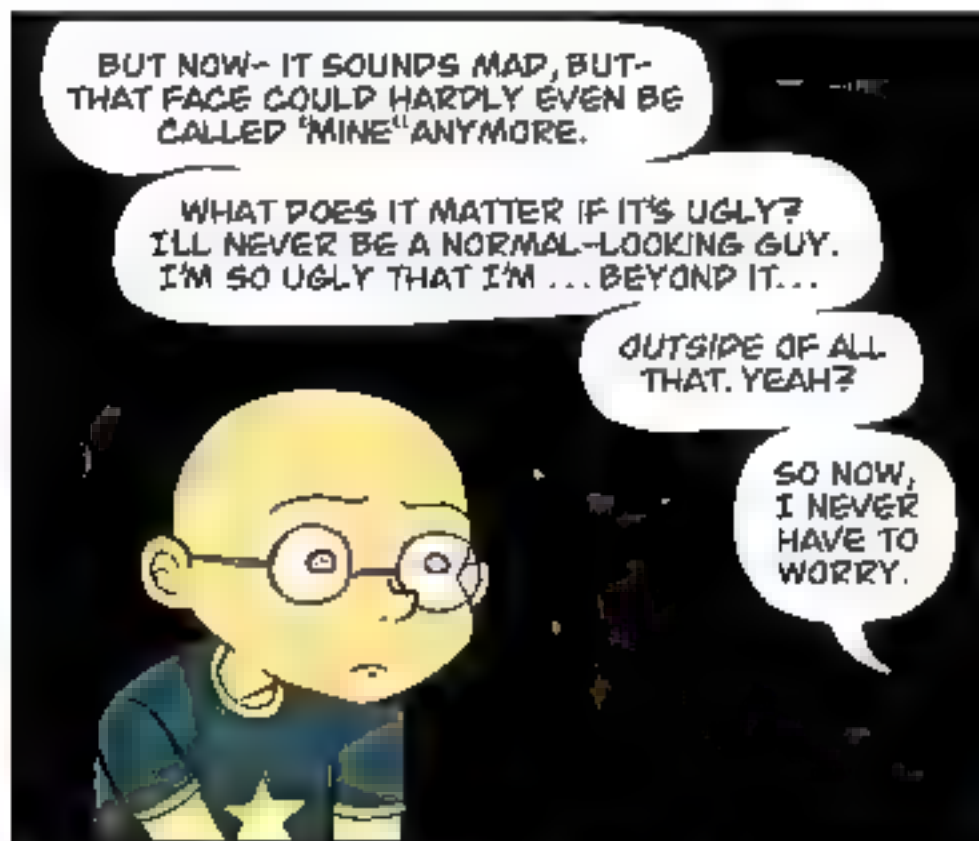


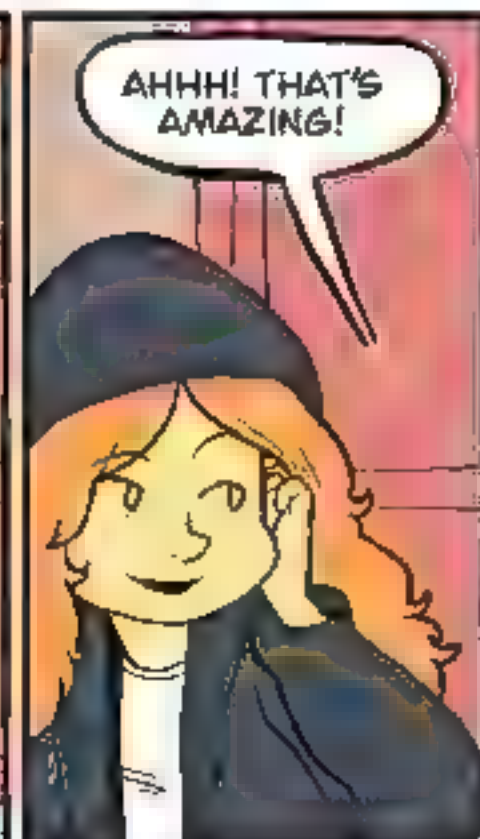
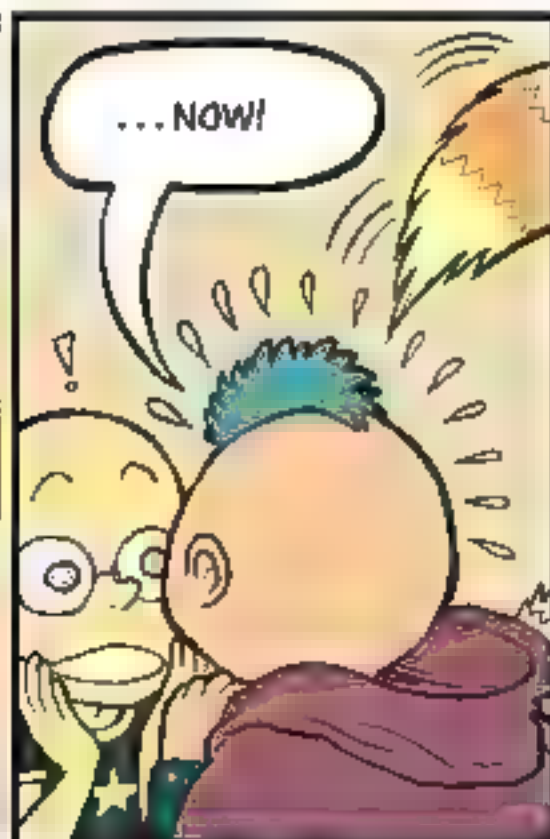
NEXT TIME- YOU AND ME, THEN?

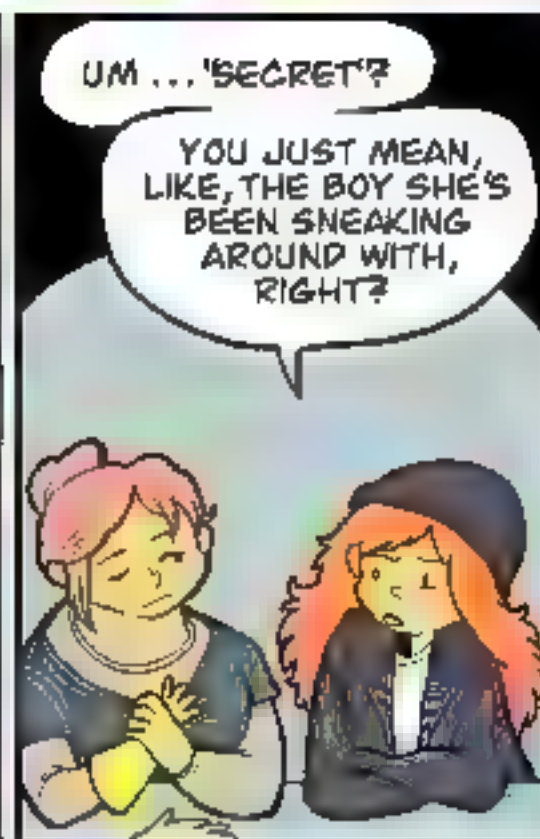
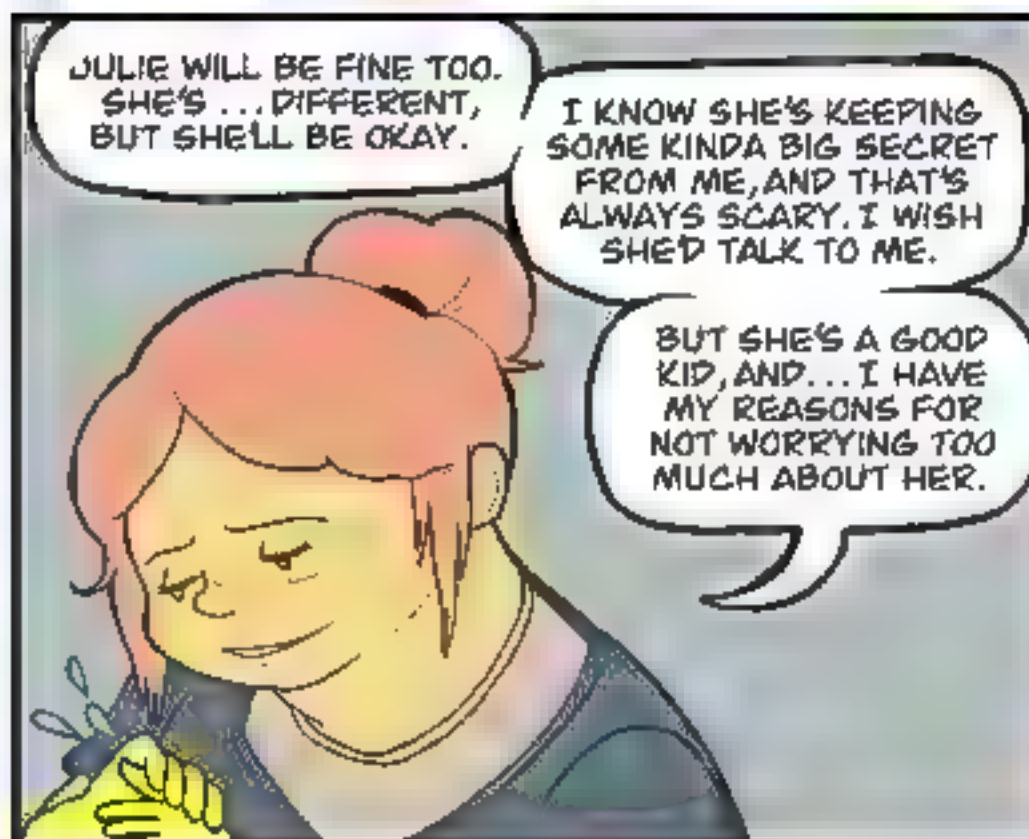
... YEAH. NEXT TIME.

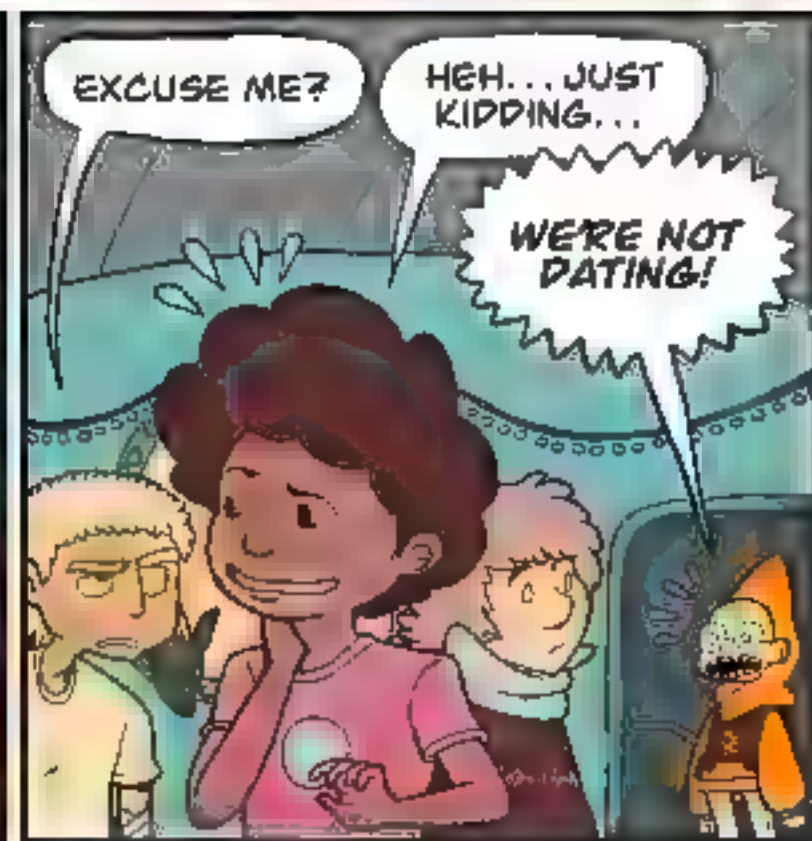
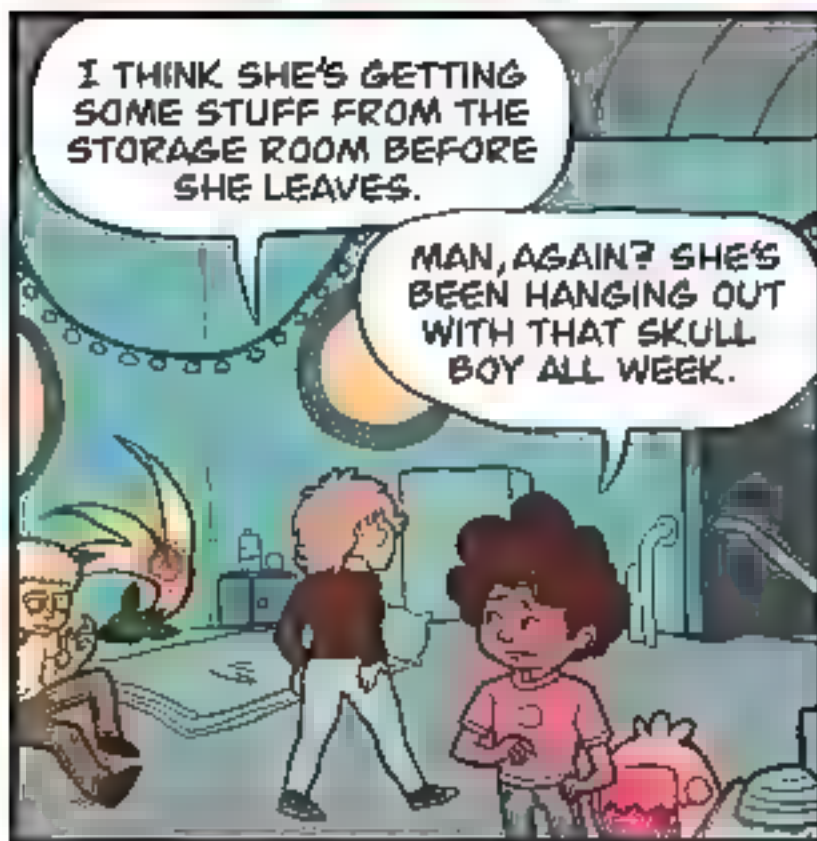
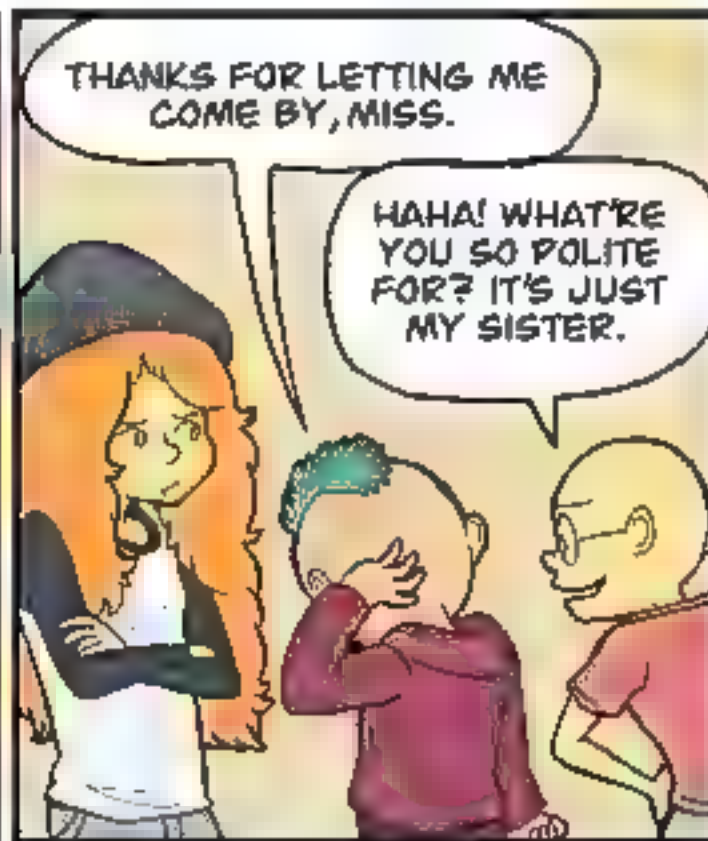
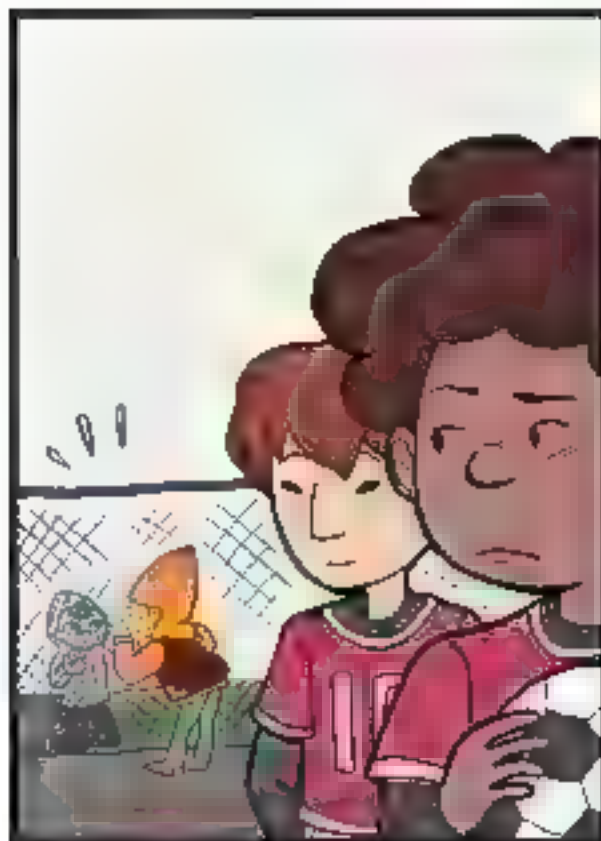


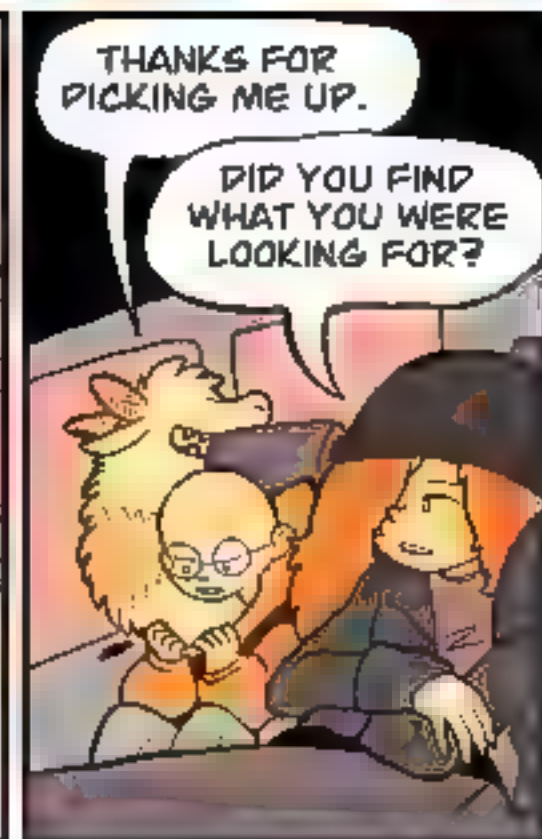
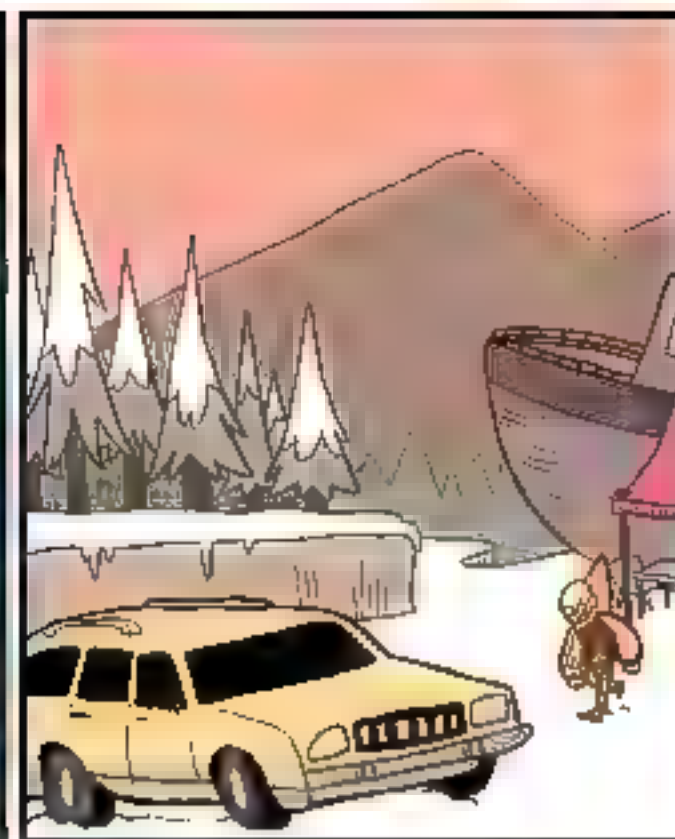
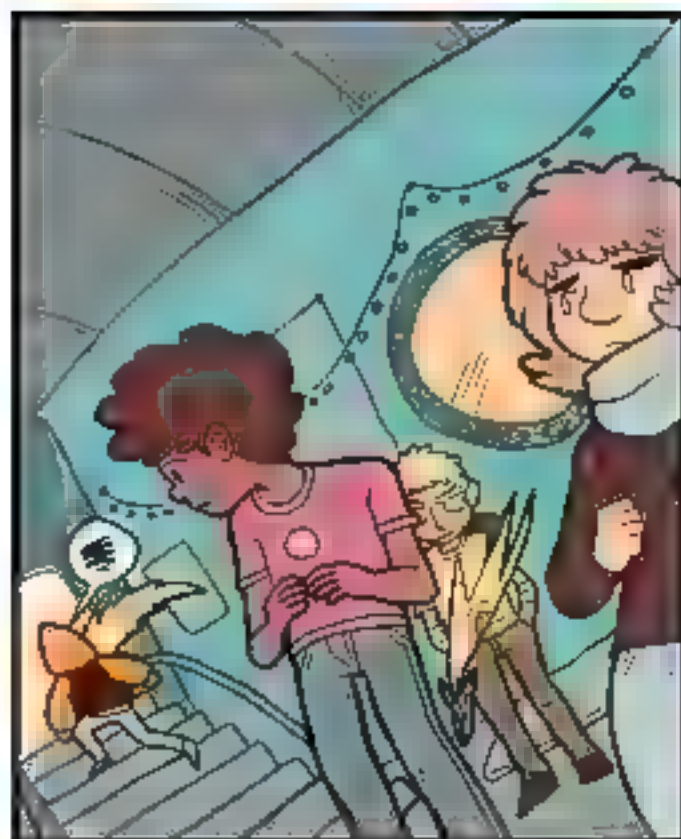


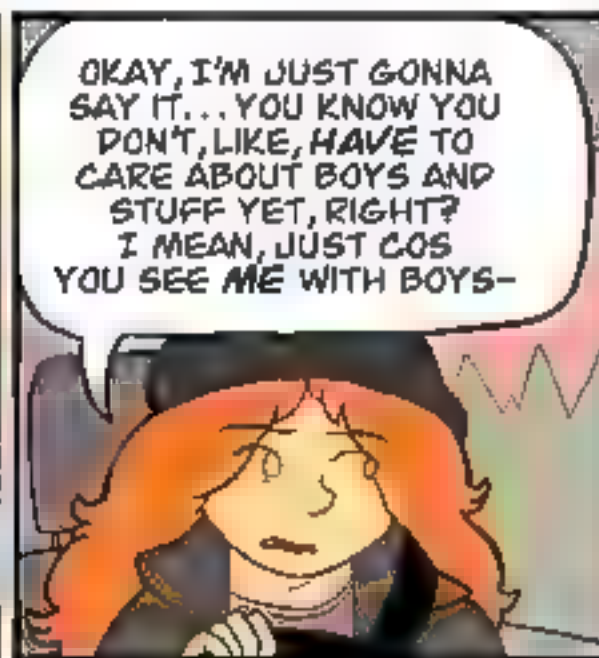


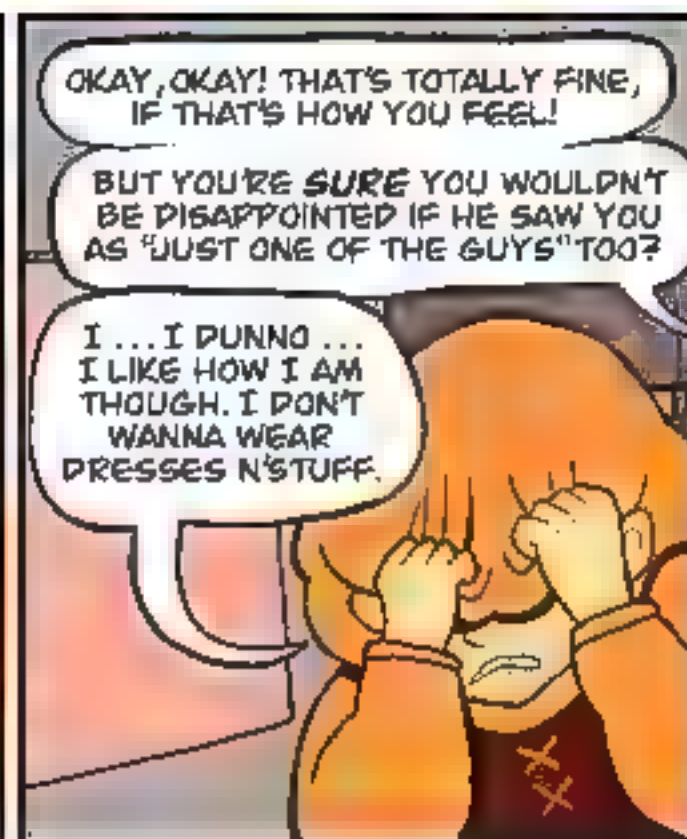
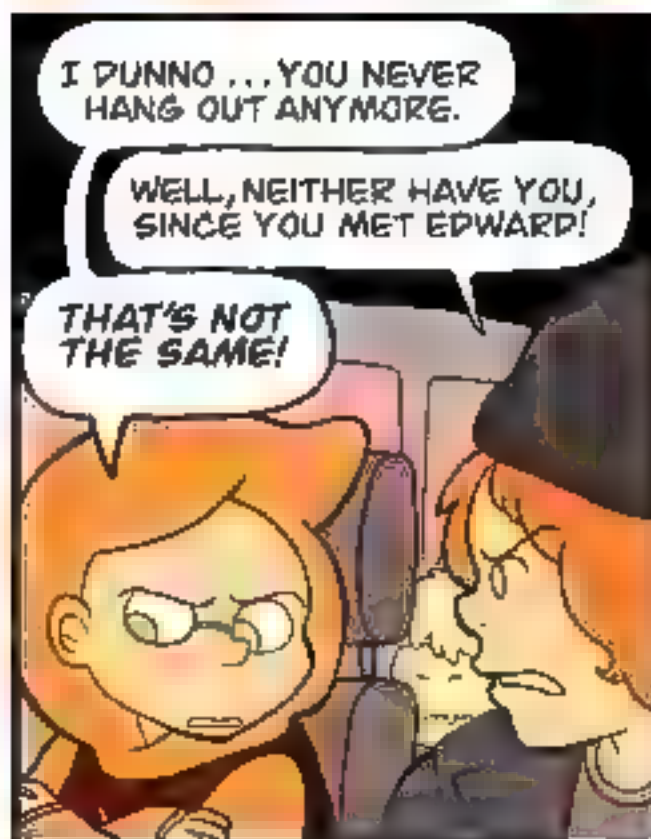
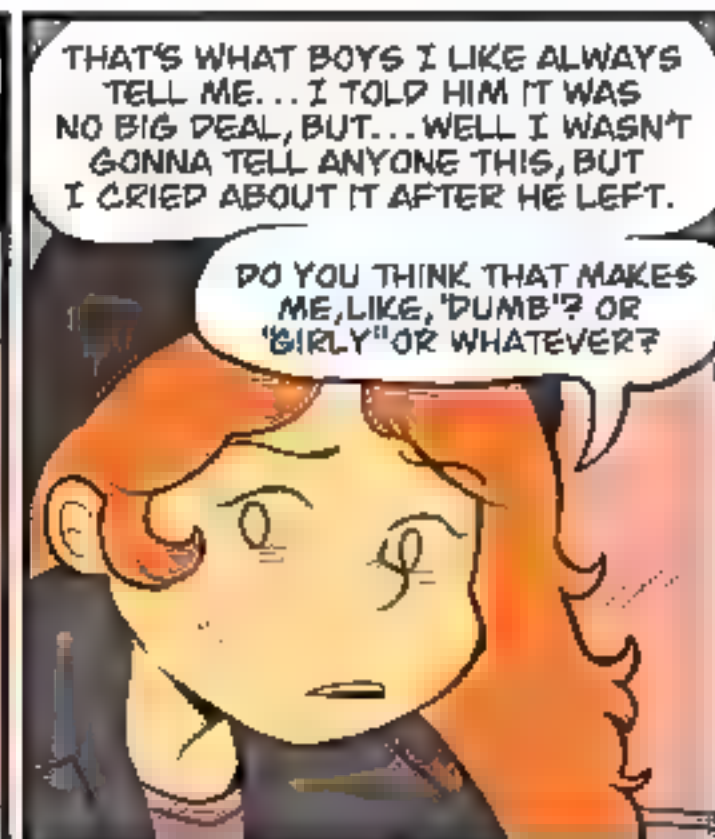


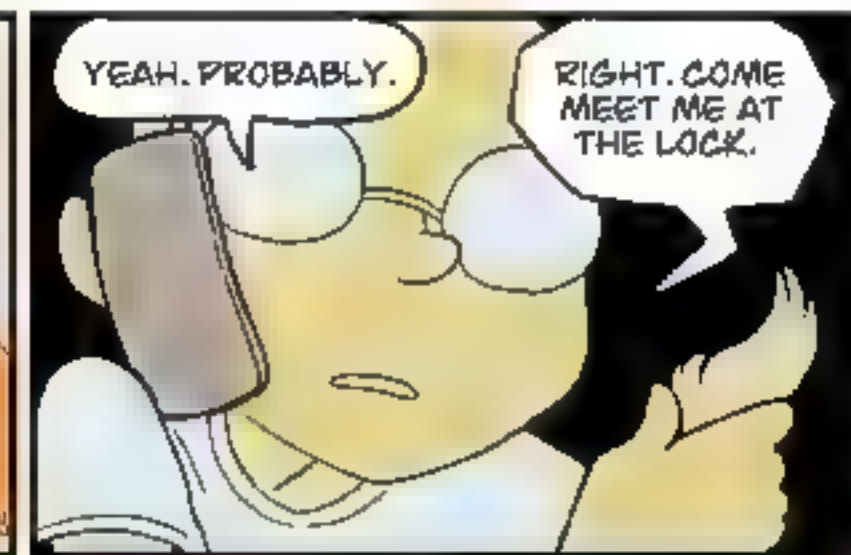
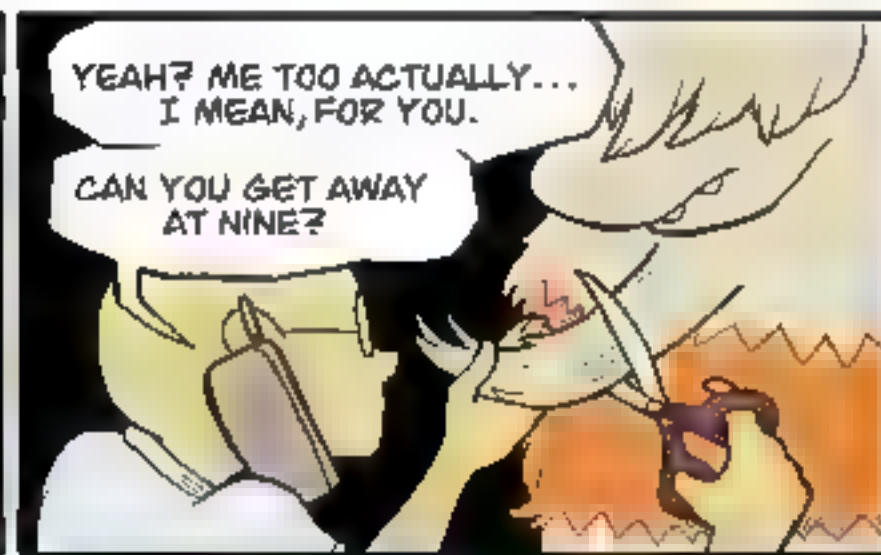


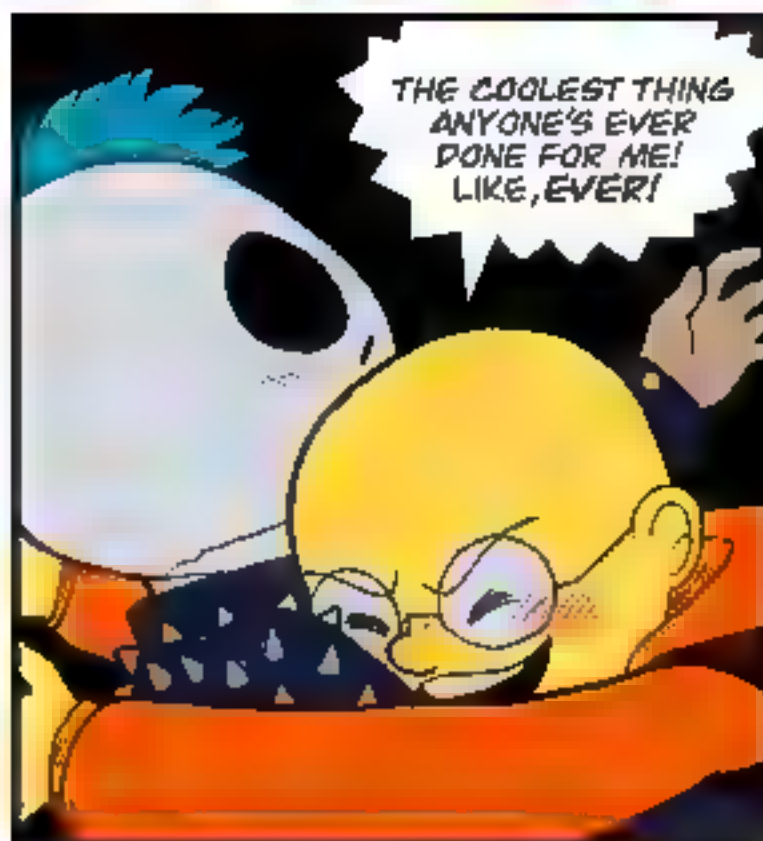
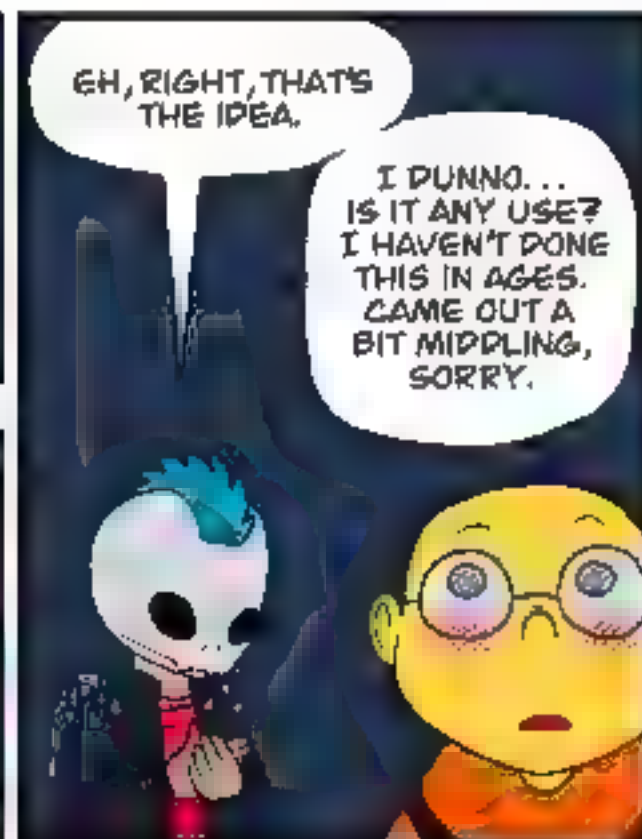


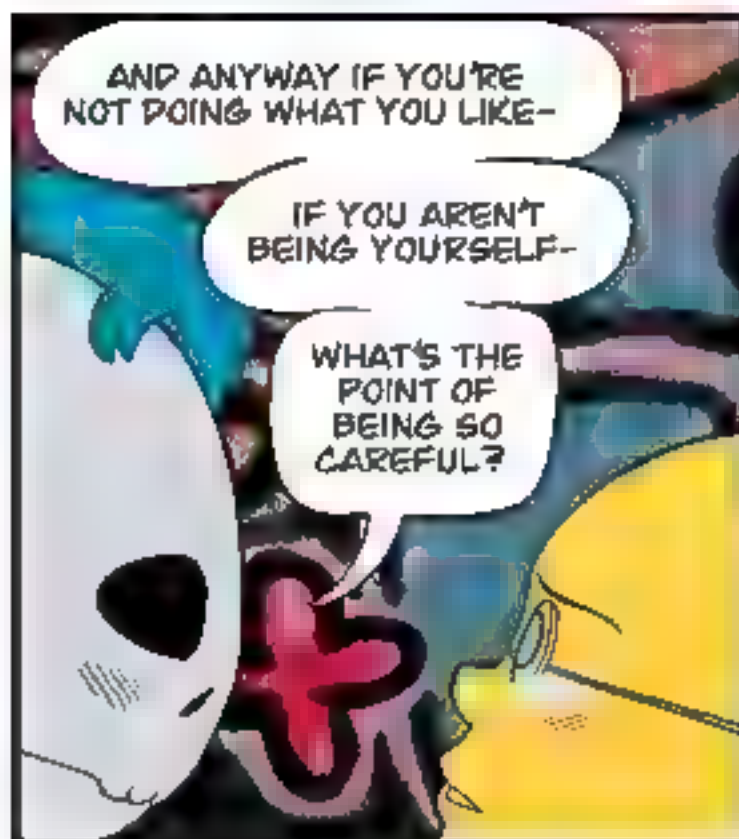
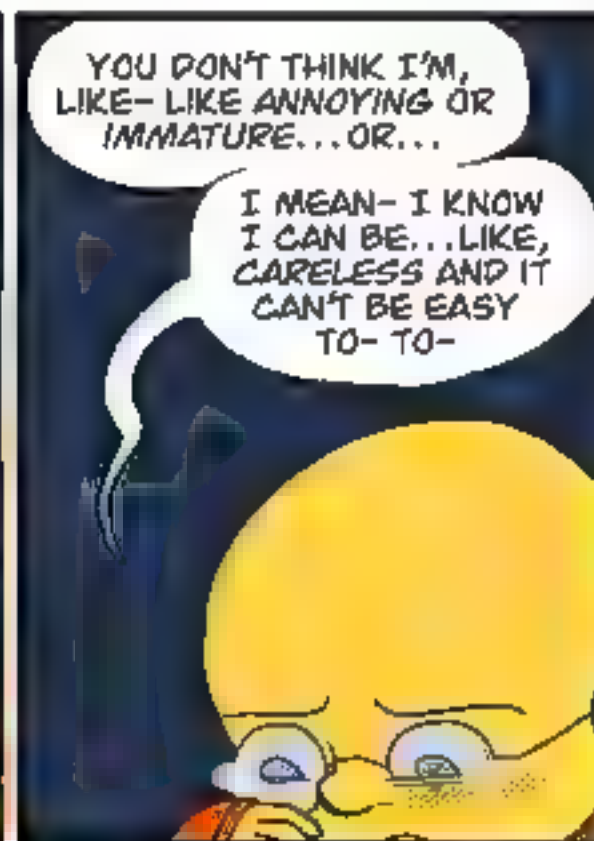




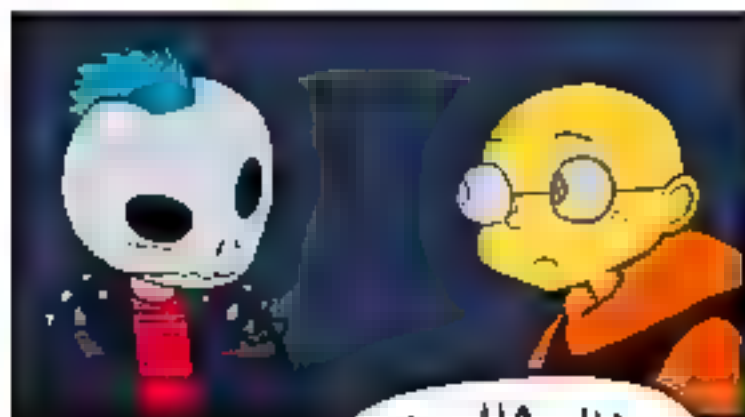












HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA



HEH... SORRY, I JUST-
I WAS SO WORRIED
SOMETHING BAD WOULD
HAPPEN TO YOU.

ESPECIALLY WITHOUT
YOUR FACE ON...



AND THE VERY NIGHT
BEFORE YOU LEAVE!
IT'D BE, LIKE ...
SOOOO IRONIC!



I JUST... DIDN'T
WANT TO SCREW
UP AGAIN.

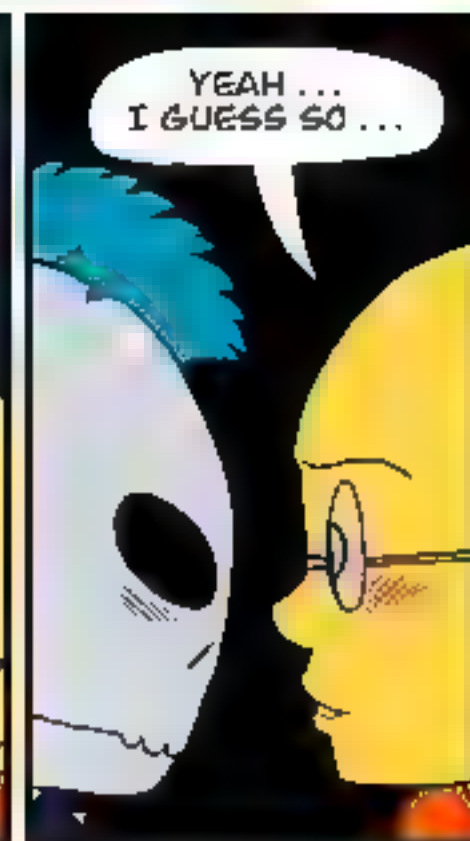


HOW WOULD YOU HAVE
BEEN THE ONE TO 'SCREW
UP'? I'M THE ONE WHO
ASKED YOU HERE.

UH...



AND IT'S LIKE I'VE BEEN
SAYING. IF YOU WERE
MORE CAREFUL, WE'D
NEVER HAVE FOUND
EACH OTHER.



YEAH...
I GUESS SO...



EH... COULD WE COME
DOWN, THOUGH? I'M NOT
TERRIBLY FOND OF HEIGHTS.

OH! DUDE
I'M SO SORRY!

